



Bulletin Service Flag

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NORWICH, CONN., WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 1918

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BUT THEIR LINE HAS NOT BEEN PERCEIVED

The Great German Military Machine is in Full Motion Along Twenty Mile Front in the Ainsie River Sector

FOCH'S RESERVES RUSHING TO AID THEIR ALLIES

The German Offensive Is Being Carried Out With the Greatest Rapidity, as Those High in Command Are Aware Allied Reserves Are Hastening to Oppose Them—The British and French Are Greatly Outnumbered and Berlin Claims the Capture of 15,000 Allied Troops—The Deepest Gain Made By the Germans, About Eight Miles, is in the Region Due East of Vailly, But the Allies Have Made the Enemy Pay Dearly in Casualties For Every Foot of Ground Gained—In Northern France the Germans Are Being Sorely Harassed By the Americans and British and French, and the Americans Have Captured Their First Village—The Italians Are Keeping Up Their Offensive Against the Austrians on Various Sectors.

The great German military machine is in full motion along the twenty mile front in the Ainsie River sector between Vailly and Berry au Bac, and, greatly outnumbered, the British and French everywhere are giving ground. According to the German official communication numerous towns and villages in the fighting zone have been taken by the enemy and 15,000 allied troops already have been made prisoners.

At last accounts the Germans were endeavoring to press back the defenders upon the Vesle River, which runs parallel with the Ainsie, and at several points had reached positions dominating the Vesle valley. The offensive, which is being carried out with the greatest rapidity, for the German high command evidently is well aware of the fact that General Foch's reserves have been reported to be coming up rapidly to reinforce the hard pressed British and French, who are fighting valiantly against the terrible onslaught.

Notwithstanding the rapidity of the drive and the large number of the enemy pressing it—some unofficial estimates place the number of shock troops alone at twenty-five divisions, or about 300,000 men—the allied front nowhere has been pierced, but under the onslaughts has bent back in perfect fashion, and all the time carrying back the enemy's line.

Although the Germans, for the most part, are on the offensive, the British and French are holding their own on the southern line in France, on the sector around Montdidier and southwest of Ypres they are being sorely harassed by the Americans and British and French.

Americans Capture Their First Village—Tuesday's fighting in the vicinity of Montdidier will mark an epoch in the war, so far as the American troops are concerned. Here in an attack they

MAJOR GENERAL WOOD CALLS AT WHITE HOUSE

Disappointed That He Is Not to Proceed to France for Service at Front.

Washington, May 28.—Major General Leonard Wood, former chief of staff, whose departure from the command of the national army division he trained for service in France, became known yesterday, spent half an hour at the White House today in conference with President Wilson. The call was arranged at the officer's request by Secretary Baker.

No statement on the subject was made either at the White House or by General Wood, but the general's friends say he wanted to tell the president in person that as senior officer of the regular army he had only one desire—to serve to the best of his ability in whatever post he was assigned to fill.

There is no concealment of the fact that the general is greatly disappointed over his failure to proceed to France for service with his division at the front. He also is disturbed over the idea of settling down to the routine duties of a departmental commander, and Secretary Baker today confirmed the report that he had asked for a more active assignment than the command of the western department to which he has been ordered.

This request has been referred to General March, chief of staff, and it is said to be probable that General Wood will be given his old post at Camp Funston to train another division.

FIFTEEN GERMAN AIRPLANES DESTROYED BY BRITISH. Five Tons of Bombs Dropped on Mannheim-Metz Railway Station.

London, May 28.—Fifteen German airplanes have been destroyed by British aviators and three others driven out of control; according to the British official communication on aviation issued tonight. The communication says also that five tons of bombs have been dropped on the Mannheim-Metz railway station.

Parrots can learn our language, but we are too dense to acquire theirs.

A Merger of All Express Companies

WITH A CAPITAL OF MORE THAN \$30,000,000, JULY 1

PRIVATE CORPORATION

One Union Express Company Is to Be Created By Agreement Between the Companies and Director General McAdoo.

Washington, May 28.—One union express company for the United States was created today by agreement between Director General McAdoo and the Adams, American, Wells-Fargo and Southern companies, whose transportation business will be merged under a new private corporation with a capital of more than \$30,000,000, to be known probably as the Federal Express company. George C. Taylor, now president of the American, will be head of the new concern.

Effective July 1.

After July 1, when the combination becomes effective, shippers will direct shipments by "express" without regard to company. The company will be the express carrying agency of the railroads, operating privately, but under contract to turn over 1-4 per cent. of their gross revenue—more than \$200,000,000 last year—to the roads for transportation privileges.

Employees to Be Retained.

More than 100,000 employees of the four companies are to be retained under the new corporation, and their wages will be paid in many cases according to Mr. Taylor.

Through economies by the common use of wagon trucks, distributing stations, and offices, warehouses, railroads and other equipment, and the simplification of accounting, the merged companies hope to save many millions of dollars and to render better service.

Though the merger is arranged under existing laws, it is planned as permanent.

The new company will have stock of \$30,000,000, representing the actual value of properties pooled, and in addition enough stock to provide ample working capital.

Stock to Be Distributed.

The stock will be distributed among the four companies according to the comparative value of the properties they contribute to be determined after the merger is completed. The value of the companies will continue its financial business, such as dealing in money orders, foreign exchanges and bonds, will be retained.

Division of Earnings.

Out of the 43-44 per cent. of gross earnings retained, the new corporation will pay operating expenses, taxes and dividends of five per cent. on its capital stock. Out of the next two per cent. retained, the corporation will pay to the four companies, and the government one per cent. Out of the next three per cent., the company will pay to the government one per cent. and the government two per cent. One-fourth of amounts above this will be distributed to the company and three-fourths to the government.

Mutual Benefits.

"The express company is given a continuing incentive to increase the greatest efficiency and economy," said the railroad administration announcement, "and yet the government will receive an increasing portion of the benefits of all such efficiency and economy."

The express company will be permitted to take on express and other business, but its compensation will be paid entirely by the railroads which will be reimbursed by the company.

TO PREVENT ENTICING AWAY LABORERS

Two Men Arrested For Pennsylvania State Employment Bureau.

Altoona, Pa., May 28.—The first effort to invoke the authority of the national government to prevent the enticing away of laborers in essential industries has been made today by the United States district court at Altoona, Pa., where a federal grand jury returned indictments against two men for enticing away laborers from the Bethlehem Steel Company's plant.

According to the indictment, the two men, S. Greedy, Altoona agent of the federal state employment bureau in Altoona, and J. A. Ayer, Altoona agent of the Bethlehem Steel Company's plant, conspired to induce laborers from the Bethlehem Steel Company's plant to leave their employment and join the federal state employment bureau.

The indictment also charges the two men with enticing away laborers from the Bethlehem Steel Company's plant to join the federal state employment bureau.

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Paris Says German Drive Is Slackening

ENEMY IS ONLY MAKING HEADWAY IN THE CENTER

SITUATION REASSURING

The Allies Are Beginning to React With Effect on the Wings—Germans Unable to Widen the Salient Toward Soissons.

Paris, May 28.—The situation tonight is more reassuring than the latest advices from the front show, but while the violence of the enemy's effort as yet is unabated he is only making headway on the center, and that even there the German momentum is giving signs of slackening. The allies are beginning to react with effect on the wings.

The left front is holding well and blocking the German attempt to widen the salient toward Soissons. The French today decided to restrict the drive of the Aisne toward city—a circumstance highly menacing for the enemy's flank. On the right the British position is being strengthened by the group of hills north of the Vesle river.

NO MORE "SCOOPS" OF BEER IN PHILADELPHIA

Maximum Size Glass Eight Ounces—To Eliminate Kettle Trade June 1.

Philadelphia, May 28.—The Philadelphia Retail Liquor Dealers' Association today decided to restrict the size of the beer glass to a maximum of eight ounces and to eliminate all kettle trade beginning June 1. The association, which has been in existence for twelve years, has been permitted to be taken from saloons only in quart bottles.

The association, whose members include proprietors of more than two thirds of the city's 1900 saloons, also decided to prohibit the sale of all spirituous liquors in any amount other than in quart bottles.

The association was organized by the liquor dealers' association, said the action was taken in order to guarantee a supply of beer sufficient to last through the summer months. However, it has been informed the association that at the present rate of consumption the supply would last only to July 15.

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Condensed Telegrams

Anti-government demonstrations continue in Prague.

Refined oil for export has been advanced one and three-fourths cents a gallon.

The New Jersey egg output for the year is 1,500,000 dozen a pronounced decrease.

Production of bituminous coal for the week ending May 18, amounted to 11,732,000 tons.

The New York Assay Office has shipped to the Orient silver amounting to \$2,500,000.

Steel men at Pittsburgh declare they are receiving 100 per cent. service from the railroads.

Lieut. Paul F. Baer, of Mobile, Ala., is listed as missing since May 22. He is an American ace.

The capacity of factories in which mail is made for the British army will be trebled this year.

Lieut. Webb with 200 pounds of mail arrived at Belmont Park from Philadelphia in 52 minutes.

President Wilson held a secret conference with Secretaries Baker and Lansing in the latter's office.

Secretary McAdoo left for White Sulphur Spring for a week's rest. The Secretary's voice is still husky.

Purchase of the Cape Cod canal and enlargement of the channel is under consideration by the government.

Captain De Ullin won his twelfth air victory. The captain was a partner to the late Capt. Guynemer.

Two Manhattan women, bogus Red Cross collectors were arrested in Newark. They admitted they pocketed the money.

Dr. Charles L. Colton, deputy cattle commissioner, killed three glandered horses in Litchfield county, Conn. Monday.

During March 32,626 tons of Norwegian shipping was lost. From August 1914, to December 1917, 813 lives were lost.

The Pope has appealed to the belligerent nations to stop air raids. Following a receipt of a protest from the bishop of Cologne.

The Browning machine guns designed to fire through propeller blades was indorsed by army officials after an exhaustive test.

Workmen returning to Switzerland declare the Germans have a hard time in getting raw materials for the manufacture of munitions.

Registrants under the selective service law who have been placed in Class I A by local boards cannot enlist for naval service.

John Kunz of New Britain, was sentenced in federal court at Hartford to a year and a day in Atlanta prison for seditious utterances.

War has depleted the forces of the Department of Agriculture. More than 1,500 members of the service have entered the army or navy.

New England gave a Red Cross subscription of 167 per